

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6989

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

CINCPAC

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, UR, US, VN, AO

SUBJECT: SOVIET CLASSIFIED PRESS SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 20

1. SUMMARY.

--PRAVDA NOTES THE SENATE DECISION TO CLOSE ABM SITE, AND REPORTS OPENING OF HEARINGS ON US-USSR COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY;
--COVERAGE OF LEONE VISIT CONTINUES EXTENSIVE, BUT MEETINGS WITH KOSYGIN ARE REPORTEDLY CONDUCTED IN AN ATMOSPHERE ONLY OF "MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING";
--PRAVDA COMMENTARY DEALS WITH RAMBOUILLET CONFERENCE AND EMPHASIZES WESTERN ECONOMIC "CONTRADICTIONS" (SEPTTEL);
--FRANCO'S DEATH GOES UNREPORTED IN PRESS;
----COMENT ON ANGOLA SLACKENS, BUT THRUST OF ARTICLES CONTINUES AIMED AT "AGRESSION" BY "RACIST" SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME.
--PRAVDA REPORTS THE COMPLETION OF THE ECPC PREPATORY SESSION IN BERLIN, WITH THE INFORMATION THAT NEXT WORKING SESSION WILL BE IN JANUARY 1976. PLANS APPARENTLY HIT SNAG IN THAT SUCH A TIMETABLE WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO HOLD AN ECPC PRIOR TO 25TH CPSU CONGRESS IN FEBRUARY (SEPTTEL);
--CENTRAL PRESS REPORTS COMPLETION OF WARSAW PACT DEFENSE MINISTERS SESSION IN PRAGUE, AND NOTES GRECHKO'S MEETING WITH HUSAK;
--LE DUAN PASSES THROUGH MOSCOW ON HIS WAY HOME.

2. UNITED STATES. PRAVDA REPORTS THE SENATE DECISION TO CLOSE THE ABM SITE AT GRAND FORKS. UNDER THE "UNDOUBTED BENEFIT" PRAVDA ALSO REPORTS THE OPENING OF HEARINGS CONCERNING US-USSR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, WITH FAIRLY EXTENSIVE QUOTES FROM STEVER AND KRATZER STRESSING PROGRESS AND MUTUAL BENEFIT. ITEM ENDS WITH STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO KRATER THAT "IN SERIES OF AREAS THE SOVIET UNION POSSESSES MORE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY THAN DOES THE U.S."
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COMMENT. THIS ARTICLE, TOGETHER WITH FAIRLY LYRICAL STRELMIKOV PIECE IN PRAVDA NOVEMBER 18 RE COSMONAUT'S TOUR OF THE U.S., INDICATES TO PRAVDA READERS THAT U.S.-SOVIET DETENTE IS STILL OPERATIONAL. END COMMENT.

3. LEONE VISIT. ALL CENTRAL PRESS CONTINUES TO GIVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO VISIT OF ITALIAN PRESIDENT AND REPORTS HIS MEETINGS WITH BREZHNEV AND KOSYGIN.

COMMENT. IN CONTRAST TO HIS SESSION WITH BREZHNEV, DESCRIBED AS "BUSINESSLIKE AND FRIENDLY," LEONE'S MEETING WITH KOSYGIN WAS CONDUCTED ONLY IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF "MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING." THEY WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING ECONOMIC MATTERS, AND SUCH SHORTHAND UNUALLY INDICATES EXCHANGES WERE FRANK. END COMMENT.

4. RAMBOUILLET. PRAVDA RUNS ITS FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT, TAKING NOW-STANDARD LINE THAT THE "CONTRADICTIONS" INHERENT IN THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SYSTEMS WERE HIGHLIGHTED BY THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS (SEPTEL).

5. FRANCO'S DEATH. CENTRAL PRESS DOES NOT MENTION FRANCO'S DEATH, BUT MORNING RADIO GAVE THE EVENT ONE LINE, WITHOUT COMMENT.

6. ANGOLA. COVERAGE SLACKENS SOMEWHAT WITH MOST PAPERS REPEATING ANGOLAN "FOREIGN MINISTER'S" REMARKS AIMED AT SOUTH AFRICAN "AGRESSION" AND ZAIRIAN "INTERVENTION."

7. COMMUNIST AFFAIRS. SEPTEL REPORTS TASS ACCOUNT ECPC EDITORIAL COMMISSION MEETING IN EAST BERLIN. CENTRAL PRESS REPORTS THE COMPLETION OF THE WARSAW PACT DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING IN PRAGUE, AND CITES DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING "ACTIVITY OF COMMANDING ORGANS OF UNITED ARMED FORCES". ALSO REPORTED IS GRECHKO'S MEETING WITH HUSAK DURING WHICH "QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL COOPERATION BETWEEN CPCZ AND CPSU, BETWEEN CSSR AND USSR" WERE DISCUSSED. PRAVDA FRONTPAGES PODGORNÝ RECEPTION OF YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION HEADED BY KEKIC FOR "WARM, FRIENDLY" MEETING, IN WHICH
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PDGORNÝ HIGHLIGHTED BREZHNEV-TITO TIE AND NOTED HOW BILATERAL COOPERATION HELPS STRENGTHEN "SOCIALIST COMMUNITY." LONG INSIDE-PAGE PRAVDA "COLOR" STORY BY V. ZHURAVSKIY QUOTES LEADERS OF ORE ENRICHMENT COMPLEX AT TARA ON ADVANTAGES YUGOSLAVIA OF YUGOSLAV PARTICIPATION IN CEMA STANDING COMMISSION ON LIGHT METALLURGY. COMMENT. PRAGUE REPORTS SMACK OF DISCUSSIONS GOING BEYOND STRICTLY MILITARY FIELD. YUGOSLAV ITEMS SUGGEST SOVIETS WOULD LIKE FSRY TO MOVE CLOSER TOO. END COMMENT.

8. VIETNAM. IZVESTIYA REPORTS THAT DRV PARTY CHIEF LE DUAN ARRIVED BACK IN MOSCOW FROM BUCHAREST ON NOVEMBER 18 EN ROUTE HOME. THE SOVIET GREETERS WERE LED BY POLITBURO MEMBER MAZUROV, PARTY SECRETARY

DOLGIKH, CC MEMBER BUGAYEV AND MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL
AUDITING COMMISSION RAKHMANIN. THIS IS ESSENTIALLY
THE SAME LEVEL OF SOVIET REPRESENTATION AT LE DUAN'S
SEND-OFF TO WARSAW ON NOVEMBER 8. THE WORDING IMPLIES
THAT LE DUAN IS MAKING A BRIEF REST-STOP HERE, AS
HE DID EN ROUTE TO HUNGARY IN EARLY OCTOBER. PRAVDA
REPORTS THAT DEPUTY PREMIER ARKHIPOV MET WITH DRV
DEPUTY PREMIER LE THANH MGIH ON NOVEMBER 18 FOR A TALK
ON "QUESTIONS OF SOVIET-VIETNAMESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION."
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